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BOARD OF DIRECTORS Elected Officers

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Vickie Volchok Ruth & Hal Hart TBD Lynn Taber Rick Spillane Hal Hart Jill McKenzie Hal Hart Dennis Goodno

Helen Dennis to Speak at Omnilore's Winter Forum The Village Concept

by Judy Bayer

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Village is part of a national Village movement, a way for seniors to age in place with dignity, purpose, and engagement.

The concept of a village began in Boston's Beacon Hill neighborhood in 2001 when a group of residents founded a nonprofit called Beacon Hill Village to ease access to the services that often force older Americans to give up their homes and move to a retirement facility. The concept has evolved to encourage involvement in purposeful, transitional experiences, though aging in place remains the core of the project.



Helen Dennis

During her tenure as chairperson of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Branch of the American Association of University Women, Sherry May, an Omnilorean, invited Helen Dennis, author and columnist, to speak about the Village concept. A special working group of the AAUW after listening to Ms. Dennis, was inspired to bring the concept of a Village to the Peninsula. Their dream has become a reality. Sherry is the chair of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Village Board, and Peninsula Seniors, Marymount College, and HELP are among the involved supporters of the project.

Helen Dennis is a member of the Peninsula Village Board and a leader on issues of aging, employment, and retirement.

This forum luncheon will be held at our usual place, the Los Verdes Golf Club, in the banquet room overlooking the ocean with a view of Santa Catalina Island. You may register for the Forum by using the coupon on the flyer you will receive or use the coupon on page 7. Menu for this luncheon is salmon with mustard dill sauce, Caesar salad, potatoes au gratin, mixed vegetables and chocolate mousse. All the coffee, water and tea that you can drink is available for free with your luncheon. Cost is \$22 per person. A vegetarian plate is available if you order at the time you make your reservation.

The Forum luncheon provides an opportunity for members and guests to enjoy a social event as well as hearing a speaker on a topic of interest.

Palos Verdes Peninsula Village			
	stay settled stay connected stay engaged	AND THE REAL PROPERTY OF	
OMNILORE NEWS is a publication of OMNILORE, a Learning-in- Retirement Organization, a program of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the	tímes annually. We	EWS is published six welcome short feature ries. Please contact the ributions.	
California State University Dominguez Hills.	Editor Staff Member	Mary Golob Carol Kerster	

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Art Irízarry

Happy New Year!

Change is the Constant

We completed our 25th anniversary year with approval of revised Bylaws and procedures, small changes to address problematic areas of administration and academics, intensified dialogue with College of Extended and International Education (CEIE) administration and staff, and acquired a detailed view of our financial ties to CSUDH, the College and the university foundation. We approved a new Technology standing committee to oversee acquisition, use and maintenance of equipment, training on the use of computers and information technology, and the role of technology in our study and discussion groups (S/DGs) and other activities. And, of course, we had a slate of outstanding S/DGs each trimester and Forum luncheons and speakers.

On the CSUDH side of operations we counted on Teresa Stevens for much of 2015 to keep us in the loop after 11 staff members vacated their positions at the **CEIE Dean Kim McNutt** College. facilitated access to financial information through Ed Cleek. who officially became CEIE Budget Manager late in 2015. Dean McNutt pushed for an annual, low-cost CSUDH parking pass for OLLI members, which includes all of us, and it is now available (see below). Dean McNutt also attended our final 2015 Board of Directors meeting and stated his support for Omnilore. We had an opportunity to engage in productive dialogue with him and he underlined his support by expediting the purchase and delivery of a piece of needed equipment.

Along with success in 2015, we also had losses, including Omnilore founder **Burt Cutler** and, most recently, **Edith Garvey**, an early member of Omnilore, long-time leader and volunteer. Her passing was a loss for Omnilore, as much as it was for her family and friends, among whom she counted a number of Omniloreans. Our condolences to her family and friends. She contributed much and left her imprint on Omnilore. While the year ends with that sad news, we look forward to carrying on Edith's legacy as an Omnilore leader and long-term volunteer.

Moving Forward

Ahead of us we have another year of adventure and enlightenment, service and challenge. With revised Bylaws approved and in effect we can complete revision of our procedures to account for the addition of the Technology Committee and some changes in the interface with CSUDH. Other issues and items on our agenda for the year will be continuation of the search for a facility which offers a more functional environment, consideration of nonprofit status for Omnilore with a concomitant adjustment in the interface with CSUDH, membership development and continued work on program and operational improvements. Our wellknown and highly appreciated administrative assistant, Johan Smith, and I will work with committee chairpersons and other operations volunteers to identify what is done and by whom to clarify processes, task assignments and resources needed.

Our Budget and Finance Task Force (Dennis Bosch, Howard Korman, Steve Miller, Jim Slattery and I) has undertaken a close look at our finances in order to identify financial issues and consider long-term planning. A superb effort by Dennis Bosch, our new treasurer, and Jim Slattery has restored focus and order to our finances. The University is undergoing administrative and financial process changes and we are working to adapt to new requirements, including adherence to University financial procedures. A few examples are the required submission of Forum guest lists and use of a new Omnilore reimbursement request form to distinguish our requests from university employee submissions, which a longer require process for reimbursement.

Membership recruitment will be on our priority activities list. We need to gain 25-50 regular memberships to offset "retirements" of senior members from Omnilore. Our membership varies from year to year, trimester to trimester, so the additional membership would effectively level out participation to about 300 regular memberships per trimester.

That membership level would give us enough participants to offer 20-25 S/ DGs each trimester and main -tain our revenue base at a solid level.



Dean McNutt plans to address our facility issues with **Associate Dean Lynda Wilson** and the Redondo Beach Unified School District, which manages the Edison Center. In the meantime, we will continue a search for an alternative location which offers a functional environment, including parking. At this point a rough inventory of the search identified 27 locations considered thus far. Limitations on parking has been a major issue, but the search will continue.

CSUDH Parking: What a Deal!

Parking passes which cost \$20 per academic year (not prorated) are now available. CSUDH Parking Services has established a process to secure the pass, but Associate Dean Lynda Wilson hopes to get Parking Services permission to simplify the application process. You must be identified as a current OLLI member at the OLLI Registration Office, get a voucher signed by Dean Wilson and then go to the Cashier office in Welch Hall. Dean Wilson expects to sign vouchers during early mornings, but please check with the OLLI office before going to campus. It took a year to get the reduced cost parking pass and it may take some time for Dean Wilson to work out a better application arrangement with Parking Services. Our patience and cooperation will help Dean Wilson's quest for a simplified process.

Omnilore Member Involvement: Our Best Asset

Patricia Edie has administered the Omnilore Facebook page for years and now would like to transition that operation to a new volunteer, or volunteers. Familiarity with Facebook will be necessary and she will help with the transition. Please contact Patricia, or me, to let us know of your interest.

Omnilore Profile—Linda Jenson, VP Administration

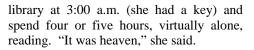
by Kate Nelson

Forget the lawyer jokes. Linda Jenson, Omnilore's Vice President for Administration, and a lawyer, upends all those stereotypes. She's compassionate, generous, thoughtful and funny. The legal skills do come in handy it was Linda who headed up the recent committee to update Omnilore's by-laws, and the organization has frequently sought her advice on a wide range of legal and administrative questions.

Linda was born and raised in Salt Lake City, but knew as early as high school that

her goals would take her far away from Utah. They led her to UCLA Law School, where she was one of 28 women in a class of 300. She said that the men were "incredibly happy" to have women in their class, but the professors were not always so welcoming. Neither were the employers. By the time she was looking for a job, Linda was married with two kids and most of the interview questions (illegal today) ran along these lines: "Do you plan to get pregnant again?" "Who's going to take care of your children while you're at work?" "Are you able to work at night?" She found a place with a small law firm, and taught at UCLA Law School before spending thirty years practicing labor and employment law, most of that time representing police departments.

She enjoyed her work, but is happily and busily retired. She still loves to read, a habit established long ago. As a kid, she would ride the bus to the library and remain for hours. She recalled that in law school, most of the students would go to the library in the evening and leave around midnight. Linda had another plan. She would go to bed early, then arrive at the



Linda married another lawyer and gave birth to twin daughters, who came as something of a surprise. Her doctor repeatedly assured her that she was having only one baby. In the delivery room, after one daughter was born, the doctor raised his hand in a "V" gesture, which Linda interpreted as *Victory*. What he really meant was that #2 was on her way. Her daughters now have four children between

them.

Like many Omniloreans, Linda, who lives in Palos Verdes, is very active in the community. She was on the Board of Rainbow Services (a domestic violence prevention organization) for eight years, president for two years. She also served as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for children who are wards of the court. She delivers for Meals on Wheels every Friday and has served on their Board and is currently on the Board of the South Bay Chamber Music Society. Somehow, she's found time for travel throughout Africa (South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania), Asia (China, Vietnam, Singapore, Indonesia), and all over Europe and Australia.

Asked what would surprise people about her, Linda said that she is a rabid Green Bay Packers fan ("I just got back from a trip there") and -- to the endless amusement of her friends -she loves watching "Let's Make a Deal." Maybe that last one is the lawyer in her.



President's Message—Continued from page 2.

Finally, we have programming suggestions presented for vour consideration: Charles Golden proposed a musical instrument players Special Interest Group and Marge Crandall suggested a program of Omnilore S/DG presentations to OLLI members. The program would be an OLLI organized and operated program. Please contact Marge or Charles for more information on their ideas. And, of course, you are welcome to contact me if you have suggestions and recommendations Omnilore for improvements or innovations. Our contact information is on the current member roster. Thank you for your support of Omnilore and fellow members.

Cheers to Us in 2016!

ean Kim McNutt—Dean of the College of Extended & International Education (CEIE)—visited Omnilore's Board meeting on December 10th. Ed Cleek, CEIE Financial Analyst, attended as well so he could be introduced as Brenda Blow's replacement. The dean brought with him a list of Omnilore's concerns about Edison Center and what was being done about them. He plans on a hands-on approach until the major problems have been solved to our mutual benefit. He announced the application for the new OLLI annual parking permit-\$20 per year-is now available. Information on the application process will be distributed soon.



New OLLI / Omnilore Coordinator: La Margo Washington

by Janice Champion Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) www.csudh.edu/olli

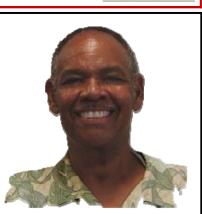


a Margo Washington was born in Fort Worth, Texas. His father was in the navy so he and his family moved a lot during his childhood. They ended up in Long Beach, his father's last duty station. La Margo attended USC where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science. Later, he earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

He has had a long career in Information Technology, including Mainframe Computer Programming, Systems Programming, Operations and Computer Networks Architect for Wide Area Networks (WAN).

La Margo has two sons and one grandson.

In his youth, he loved to play basketball. He also found gratification as a volunteer coach and in officiating youth sports. Now, however, it's all about Social Tennis for Seniors at OLLI.



La Margo joined OLLI when Jeffrey Jones, a dedicated OLLI volunteer, good friend and ex-classmate, introduced him to Social Tennis for Seniors. Since then, he has had many memorable OLLI experiences. However, the OLLI members and volunteers are the sole reason he applied to be the OLLI/Omnilore Coordinator.

In keeping with OLLI's mission, as the new coordinator who oversees the operation of the peer-taught adult lifelong learning programming, La Margo's first agenda item will be to bring awareness of the OLLI Program to the South Bay and to increase membership with the help of the OLLI volunteers.



"I want everyone to understand," said La Margo, "that I am an OLLI member and volunteer who became Coordinator, and that without members, volunteers and supporters, there is no OLLI. Therefore, I challenge all past and present OLLI supporters to submit at least one comment and/or concern to the OLLI Members' HOTLINE (310.243.3208) and to submit your testimonies on <u>what</u> <u>OLLI means to you</u> prior to the OLLI Open House on January 26, 2016 at 10 a.m. in EE-1213.

"OLLI thanks you and I thank you in advance for all your support. And please don't forget," he added, "to bring at least two new friends to Open House!"

"It Takes a Village"

By Judy Bayer

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Village is part of a unique national movement that has grown from the concept of a time-honored conclave of family dwellings to a vision that embraces the people who are living within those homes, those who are growing older and facing the challenges of staying put, engaged and connected with their community. The PVP Village is composed of members who choose to age safely and independently in their homes with the support of volunteer members and service referrals.

The PVP Village is a community of volunteers who provide support to others when needed and who may receive help when they are in need. The vision is fluid; activities, services, and volunteer opportunities will evolve based on input from members. Presently, they include educational, cultural and social programs, volunteer support such as door-to-door transportation, minor home maintenance, and household assistance; and member referrals for professional services.

The idea for a Village on the Peninsula was conceived by the leaders of the local American Association of University Women. Sherry May, a member of Omnilore, is past president of the AAUW, and as chairwoman of the Board, she has spearheaded the efforts to bring the Village to the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Founding partners include AAUW-PVP, HELP (Healthcare and Elder Law Programs) Marymount California University, and Peninsula Seniors.

Visit the PVP Village website at www.peninsulavillage.net to learn more.



In mid-October, Congressman Ted Lieu presented Village Chair Sherry May with a Certificate of Congressional Recognition, supporting the concept of a Village for the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

ROI

/DGS

The presence of full-page advertisements of *Spotlight* and *Joy* facing each other in the LA Times Calendar section actually determined my choices for this month's column. No need to select just one of these phenomenal films to recommend; they are more than worthy of all the kudos they've received, e.g. nominees as Best Picture of the Year.

The discovery and pursuit of the existence of widespread child abuse by Catholic clergymen and the equally widespread cover-up by senior officials of the Church was the task assigned to the group of journalists at the Boston Chronicle, known as the Spotlight Team. This group, played by actors Michael Keaton, Rachel McAdams, Mark Ruffalo and Liev Schreiber, were very much aware of the power of the Catholic hierarchy in

Boston on their paper and on their own lives, mostly having been raised Catholic. One says, wistfully "I was going to go back some day." While there was no surprise to viewers that they succeeded in the task of uncovering the scandal, the well-written script, by Josh Singer and Tom McCarthy, skillful direction by Tom McCarthy, and spot-on performances by the above-mentioned actors, was as dramatic and suspenseful as any good mystery. Painfully disappointing was the disclosure of the worldwide extent of abuse and the absence of actual justice for the victims. The major perpetrator of the cover-up, a bishop located in Boston, was retired to the safe residence of a Church-owned property. Let us not forget: "Absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Joy might be characterized by an altogether different phrase: never give up on your own dreams. From the age of ten, Joy Mandano was a creator. She envisioned and could create in paper cut-outs images of objects unknown, but, in fact, practical. Joy finds herself divorced with two young daughters living with her highly supportive grandmother, her mother, confined by choice to her bed, her auto-repair shop owner father (divorced from her mother and romantically involved with a wealthy Italian widow), and her own ex-husband, with whom she gets along better than when they were married. This unique family provides actual inspiration to this extraordinary woman, who is possessed of a quiet, but intense sense of confidence. And it is that confidence that leads her, not smoothly but very definitely, to enormous wealth and fame as the inventor of household products and their sales, in the millions, via television. The story sounds mundane. The magic it displays is the result of a cast that consists of an absolutely stunning group of actors led by Jennifer Lawrence, who is gorgeous and totally believable as this truly innovative pioneer of commerce. Robert De Niro, Virginia Madsen, Diane Ladd, and Bradley Cooper are stalwarts in this dysfunctional family, and Isabella Rossellini (yes, Ingrid Bergman's daughter) all add to the pleasure. Joy is truly a joy!

The Worth and Defense of Elia Kazan S/DG Class Experience

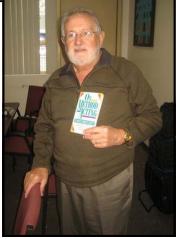
by Dale Korman, Coordinator

Today—December 17th—was our last Elia Kazan class. **Carlos Lemmi** presented a stellar lesson on Method Acting. As you may know, Kazan joined New York's experimental Group Theatre in the 1930s and continued to teach the "Method" style of acting to many well-known actors on stage and screen. In 1947, he co-founded the Actor's Studio, an organization that offers training and performance opportunities to generations of Method actors.

So now our class of Omniloreans can proudly say that we can link our names with such greats as Marlon Brando, Anne Bancroft, Dustin Hoffman, Robert De Niro, and many others. Thanks goes to Carlos for providing us with the "tools" to perfect our creativity.

Carlos with book he used for his presentation, **On Method Acting** by Edward D. Easty

INTRODUCING OMNILORE MEETINGS: Conf. Wednesday, February 24th - 1:30 p.m. Room Wednesday, March 23rd - 1:30 p.m. B Help Spread the Word! RSVP 310-514-1415





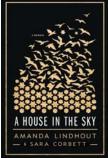
Best Sellers SIG Starts the New Year

by Patricia Edie & Cindy Eggert

ach month, on the second Monday of the month, about 20 plus members and guests meet in Conference Room B from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm to discuss the chosen book for the month. We alternate each month between various works of fiction and non-fiction. The subject matter is varied and the discussion always animated. Upcoming dates and book selections are:

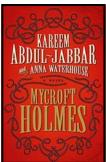


Monday, January 11: Fiction *Did You Ever Have a Family* by Bill Clegg



Monday, March 14: Fiction *Mycroft Holmes* by

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar



Monday, February 8: Non-Fiction

A House in the Sky: A Memoir by Amanda Lindhout

As with any SIG, you do not need to register to participate...just show up on the date prepared to participate. Guests are always welcomed.

Fall Trimester Evaluation Surveys

by Kathleen Fitzgerald, Vice President, Academics

t the end of this trimester we will again be conducting the class evaluations by e-mail. You will receive from Johan an evaluation form to fill out and return

These evaluations are confidential. A report goes to the Board and the Curriculum Chair, but nothing is attached to any individual responder.

We are always trying to get better and these evaluations are important because they tell what worked during the last trimester and what didn't work. We get an idea of what courses might be repeated at another time, what books could be recommended again, problems with the rooms, equipment, etc.

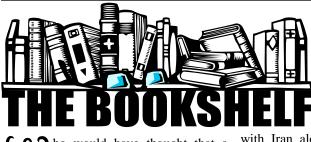


Kathleen Fitzgerald

The more responses we get, the more we learn. So when you get the evaluation form, please fill it out and return it.

Presentations 101 by Kathleen Fitzgerald, Vice President, Academics New to Omnilore and looking for help getting started? Hoping to make your presentation interesting and involving? Experienced in making presentations but looking for new inspiration? A workshop is being offered on Tuesday, February 2nd 12:15 to 1:15 pm Conference Room B

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ho would have thought that a book about rowing could be so exciting and gripping? The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown is the fascinating true story of the competition between the crewing teams of Washington and California. The author also takes on the elitist schools of the East Coast compared with the West Coast in their athletic and social lives. Interspersed with the training and races of the crews, Daniel Brown addresses the rise of Adolph Hitler and the aggression of the Nazis. The goal for the teams as well as for the reputation of Germany is the 1936 Olympics. This is truly a tale well told.

Ally: My Journey Across the American-Israeli Divide by Michael B. Oren. The author is an American born and educated historian. He moved to Israel and became Israel's ambassador to the U.S. from 2009 to 2013. This is his third NY Times bestseller. Here he delivers a diplomatic memoir with the Obama administration (including Secretary of State Clinton) front and center. His practiced eye as a historian comes in handy in documenting the rift that developed between President Obama and Prime Minister Netanyahu and he's not hesitant to give an insider's view on who did what to who. His insights and inside information on the treaty

with Iran alone are worth the price of admission.

Wash, a story about slave-breeding in Tennessee during the country's westward expansion, is **Margaret Wrinkle**'s first novel. Ms. Wrinkle, a white writer from Birmingham, Alabama, writes about a black character, a rather daunting challenge that she has done beautifully.

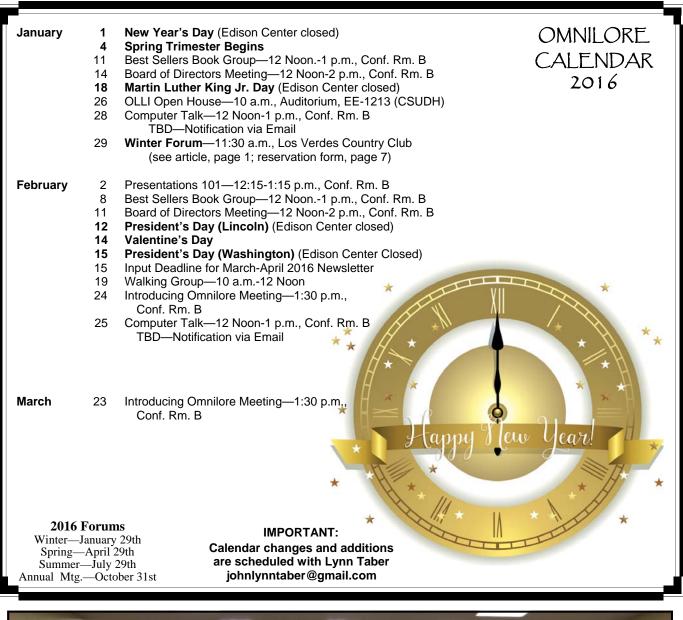
Three main characters tell their stories: Richardson, a Revolutionary War veteran and diffident slave owner; Wash, the protagonist, Richardson's "traveling negro;" and Pallas, Wash's lover, a midwife and medicine woman whose owner once leased her for three years to another plantation as a sex slave for the owner's son.

Wash, an excellent male specimen, labors as a breeding sire (an historical reality that I had never encountered). Often, he gazes at the children playing about his owner's land and wonders which are his sons and daughters. He sees his children as the future for the African Slave, the ultimate hope for survival. Their existence helps ease the dehumanizing task he has been called upon to perform. His mother has instilled in him the strength of his ancestry, her spirituality, and her sense of self to help him survive the depths of his existence. It's not easy for him, but through Wrinkle's beautiful prose and sensitivity to her subject, I found myself engrossed in the story and appreciative of her sense of history and the warmth and humanity with which she treated her characters. I highly recommend this book, especially to those who participated in the class, The Warmth of Other Suns.

Dreaming Yourself Awake: Lucid Dreaming and Tibetan Dream Yoga for Insight and Transformation, by B. Alan Wallace. This relatively short (150 pp) book gives an introduction to basic Tibetan Buddhist meditation practices and then proceeds to an increasingly esoteric set of dream practices. While full lucid dreaming may be a long-term goal, many of the benefits can be achieved more quickly. As a guide it progresses from simple relaxation techniques to new ways to view the world and your experiences (both awake and asleep).

Book suggestions from Omniloreans make this column work. Thanks to **Helen Leven**, **Dan Stern**, and **Judy Bayer** for contributing to this month's list. Please send your titles, with author's name and a brief description, to Johan (<u>johansmith@ca.rr.com</u>). Please put "Omnilore Books" as the subject of your email. We look forward to hearing from you.

WHEN:	OMNILORE Winter Forum Lune Friday, January 29th, 2016—11:3	cheon Reservation Form 30 a.m.
WHERE: Los Verdes Country Club 7000 W. Los Verdes Drive Rancho Palos Verdes		cheon Reservation Form 30 a.m. <u>NO Reservations</u> 19th! accepted after January
Please make	reservations for the Omnilore Winter Forun	
Name(s):		Phone
(Please Print)		E-Mail
	(Please Print)	Enclosed is a check for: \$22.00 each
Vegetarian plate	: # Regular plate: #	Total number of meals:
	s out to CSUDH , and put in the s box in Conf. Room B or send to:	Forum Committee, c/o Lori Geittmann 420 Avenue E Redondo Beach, CA 90277-5122





Newly certified AED members; from the left: John Stratton, Sally Moite, Vickie Volchok, Julie Citroen, Janet Brown, Dennis Bosch, Mary Lou Busch, Larry Brown, Yvette & Frank Reiner, Kent McDonald and Jim Slattery.

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